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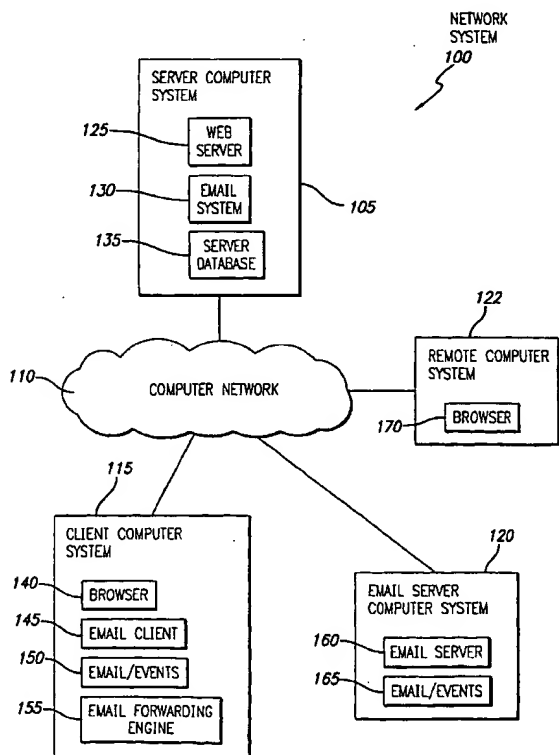
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY FORWARDING EMAIL AND EMAIL EVENTS VIA A COMPUTER NETWORK TO A SERVER COMPUTER



(57) Abstract: A network system includes a server computer system coupled via a computer network to a client computer system, to an email computer system, and to a remote computer system. The server computer system downloads an email forwarding engine to the client computer system for enabling the email forwarding functionality on the client computer system. On the client computer system, the email forwarding engine examines start criteria, determines whether the start criteria have been met, obtains new email and/or email events from an email database, and forwards the new email and/or email events to the server computer system. The server computer system maintains them in a database. The email forwarding engine includes a filter for examining the email and/or email events against filter control data to determine the data to transfer and the desired transfer protocols. The server computer system stores an independently modifiable copy of user preferences, e.g., start criteria, stored on the client computer system to enable remote modification of the user preferences. In accordance with a configuration-check schedule, the client computer system determines whether any changes to the independently modifiable copy of the user preferences have been made, and if so modifies its copy of the user preferences.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 01/08407

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 G06F17/60 H04L12/58

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 05620 A (VISTO CORP) 4 February 1999 (1999-02-04) column 2, line 23 -column 4, line 14 column 14, paragraph 3 column 23, line 3 -column 26, line 12; figures 1,8 ---	1-4
X	WO 99 45451 A (PUMA TECHNOLOGY INC) 10 September 1999 (1999-09-10) page 18, line 1 -page 22, line 2; figures 3,4 ---	1-4
A	US 6 021 427 A (RAO ARUN ET AL) 1 February 2000 (2000-02-01) column 1, line 38 - line 52 column 5, line 18 - line 49 --- -/--	1-4

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>"PROVIDE AUTO-FORWARDING BASED ON CRITERIA SELECTED BY THE USER" RESEARCH DISCLOSURE, KENNETH MASON PUBLICATIONS, HAMPSHIRE, GB, no. 306, 1 October 1989 (1989-10-01), page 719 XP000085405 ISSN: 0374-4353 the whole document -----</p>	1-4

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US 01/08407

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-4

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-4

mail forwarding via a computer network

2. Claims: 5-8

filtering of email data

3. Claims: 9-12

maintenance of preference data in a computer network

4. Claims: 13-14

providing forwarding functionality to a client computer

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9905620	A	04-02-1999	US 5961590 A CN 1268233 T EP 0996905 A1 JP 2001511611 T WO 9905620 A1	05-10-1999 27-09-2000 03-05-2000 14-08-2001 04-02-1999
WO 9945451	A	10-09-1999	US 6304881 B1 WO 9945451 A2 US 2002059256 A1	16-10-2001 10-09-1999 16-05-2002
US 6021427	A	01-02-2000	NONE	